Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SCUL, RO

SUBJECT: NEW MFA RULES CONCERNING DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS BY

DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

REF: (A) 1977 BUCHAREST 7285; (B) 1976 BUCHAREST FM 7 - 12/23/76

- 1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED MFA VERBAL NOTE (CIRCULAR NUMBER 06/8680 DECEMBER 30, 1977) SETTING FORTH NEW REGULATIONS CONCERNING DISTRIBUTION OF EMBASSY MATERIALS. THIS CIRCULAR REPLACES A PREVIOUS ONE ON SAME SUBJECT (NUMBER 06/8084 DECEMBER 17, 1976). WHILE REGULATIONS REMAIN ESSENTIALLY THE SAME, LANGUAGE OF THE NEW CIRCULAR IS MUCH STRONGER AND POSSIBILITIES FOR CENSORSHIP OF MATERIALS WHICH DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WISH TO DISTRIBUTE ARE MUCH MORE EVIDENT.
- $2. \ \ TEXT\ OF\ CIRCULAR\ (UNOFFICIAL\ TRANSLATION)\ FOLLOWS:\ \ QUOTE$
- 1. THE DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA OF BULLETINS OR OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS MAY BE UNDERTAKEN BY DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES ACCREDITED IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESENTING INFORMATION CONCERNING THEIR COUNTRIES.
- 2. IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA IT IS FORBIDDEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO DISTRIBUTE BULLETINS OR OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS WHICH THROUGH THEIR CONTENT:

A) PROPAGANDIZE AGAINST COUNTRIES WITH WHICH THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS OR CONTAIN OFFENSIVE EXPRESSIONS TOWARD THOSE COUNTRIES OR THEIR POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS;

B) CONSTITUTE AN INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL

AFFAIRS OF THE ROMANIAN STATE.

- 3. IN ORDER TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION FOR DISTRIBUTION, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES ARE OBLIGATED TO SUBMIT, BEFOREHAND, TO THE DIRECTORATE FOR CULTURAL AND PRESS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA TWO COPIES OF EACH BULLETIN OR PRINTED MATERIAL. IF IN A PERIOD OF 5 WORKING DAYS THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DOES NOT COMMUNICATE ANY OBJECTIONS ABOUT THE BULLETIN OR RESPECTIVE MATERIALS, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES MAY PROCEED TO DISTRIBUTE THEM TO THE INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONS INCLUDED IN THE LISTS MENTIONED IN POINT 4.
- 4. DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO COMMUNICATE TO THE DIRECTORATE FOR CULTURAL AND PRESS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WITHIN ONE MONTH OF THE RECEIPT OF THIS CURCULAR THE TITLE OF THE BULLETINS AND THE PRINTED MATERIALS WHICH THEY WOULD LIKE TO DISTRIBUTE IN ROMANIA, SPECIFYING THE FREQUENCY AND NUMBER OF COPIES OF EACH AND ANNEXING A LIST OF THE INSTITUTIONS AND PERSONS TO WHOM THEY WISH TO SEND THESE PUBLICATIONS.
- 5. DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA ARE INVITED TO COMMUNICATE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ANY MODIFICATIONS IN THE DISTRIBUTION LISTS OF THEIR BULLETINS AND OF OTHER MATERIALS WHICH THEY DISTRIBUTE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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- 6. FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF BULLETINS OR PRINTED MATERIALS OTHER THAN THOSE COMMUNICATED TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH POINT 4 OF THIS CIRCULAR, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES WILL NEED TO REQUEST IN WRITING THE AGREEMENT OF THE DIRECTORATE FOR CULTURAL AND PRESS OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
- 7. THIS NOTE REPLACES CURCULAR NUMBER 06/8084 OF DECEMBER 17, 1976, CONCERNING THE DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATIONS IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA, END QUOTE.
- 3. AS WE HAVE UP TO NOW, EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO CONFORM WITH PREVIOUS FORMULATION OF THESE REGULATIONS EXCEPT THAT WE WILL NOT GIVE MFA A LIST OF RECIPIENTS OF OUR PUBLICATIONS. WE CONSIDER THAT PROVIDING SUCH A LIST WOULD BE AN INTERFERENCE IN OPERATION OF EMBASSY AND A POSSIBLE DANGER TO THOSE WHO ARE ON OUR MAILING LISTS. THERE, WE INTEND TO CONTINUE DISTRIBUTION AS IN PAST, PROVIDING ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION EXCEPT LIST OF RECIPIENTS.

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